



BILLING CODE: 3410-03

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Research Service

Notice of Intent to Seek Reinstatement of an Information Collection

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 3)

and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations at 5 CFR part 1320, this notice

announces the Agricultural Research Service's (ARS) intent to seek reinstatement of the ARS

Animal Health National Program Assessment Survey, which seeks input on the impact of the

Animal Health National Research Program through the completion of an electronic evaluation

form. This voluntary information collection will give the beneficiaries of ARS research the

opportunity to provide input on the impact of the research conducted by ARS in the last national

program cycle. This input will be used for planning the research agenda for the next 5-year

program cycle.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER] to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Address all comments concerning this notice to Dr. Cyril G. Gay, National Program Leader, Agricultural Research Service, National Program Staff, Animal Production and Protection, 5601 Sunnyside Avenue, GWCC, Building 4, Beltsville, Maryland, 20705–5148.

Comments may be sent by phone to (301) 504–4786 or fax to (301) 504–4873. Submit electronic comments to Cyril.Gay@ars.usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Cyril G. Gay at (301) 504–4786.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: ARS Animal Health National Program Assessment Evaluation Form.

OMB Number: 0518-0042.

Expiration Date: February 28, 2013.

Type of Request: Approval to seek reinstatement of the ARS Animal Health National Program Assessment Survey, which seeks input from the beneficiaries of research conducted by ARS for program planning and ensures alignment of the Animal Health National Program with the needs of our customers, partners, and stakeholders.

Abstract: This voluntary electronic evaluation form will give the beneficiaries of ARS research the opportunity to provide input on the impact of the national program on animal agriculture.

For the purpose of this National Program Assessment, impact is defined as research that has influenced or will significantly influence the animal sciences and animal health, has created or will create economic opportunities for producers and farmers, or has enabled or will enable action and regulatory agencies to formulate policies and regulations to support American agriculture. The report and evaluation form will be available on-line through a dedicated URL. The input provided through the completion of the evaluation form will be shared with customers, partners, and stakeholders through webinars, conference calls and/or meetings, which will be held during the input stage of the program planning cycle.

ARS National Program Assessments are conducted every 5 years, through the organization of webinars, conference calls and/or meetings. These input sessions allow ARS to periodically update the vision and rationale of each National Program and assess the relevancy, effectiveness, and responsiveness of ARS research. In addition, these input sessions facilitate the review and simultaneously provide an opportunity for customers, stakeholders, and partners to assess the progress made through the National Program and provide input for future modifications to the National Program or the National Program's research agenda. In the case of the ARS Animal

Health National Program, the beneficiaries of the research are numerous, including the majority of the livestock and poultry industries, trade associations, Federal and State government agencies, and research partners in universities and the private sector. The electronic evaluation form will allow ARS to outreach to its many customers, partners, and stakeholders that are unable to attend the webinars, conference calls and/or meetings and also ensure an efficient means of obtaining the greatest amount of input on the impact and direction of the ARS Animal Health National Research Program.

Estimate of Burden: Completing the electronic evaluation form is estimated to average 15 minutes per response.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 400.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 100 hours.

Comments are invited on (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed

collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and the assumptions used;

(c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the input provided by a wide array of

customers, and; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who

respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technology.

Comments should be sent to the address in the preamble. All responses to this notice will be

summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter

of public record.

Caird E. Rexroad, Jr.

Associate Administrator, ARS

October 22, 2012

DATE

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